

Huron Church Road, Windsor – Temporary Concrete Barrier Installation

Issue:

Why is MTO sole sourcing the supply/installation of 5 km of Temporary Concrete Barrier on Huron Church Road in the City of Windsor to [REDACTED]?

Key Message:

- Huron Church Road (Northwood Street to College Avenue) is one of the most important Connecting Links, connects Highway 401 to the U.S. Border Crossing in Windsor at the Ambassador Bridge and was recently blocked by protesters.
- On February 11, 2022, the Premier of Ontario declared a State of Emergency to address the closure of the Ambassador Bridge by protesters, protests in Ottawa and impacts at other locations.
- On February 12, 2022, OPP (as the lead provincial authority addressing the Border closure) requested that MTO supply 6 pieces of equipment to close roads and install <0.2km of Temporary Concrete Barrier (TCB) in the City of Windsor in preparation for OPP action on February 13.
- On February 13, 2022, (by 8:30am) OPP received equipment and TCB from MTO service providers.
- On February 13, 2022, in order to control access on Huron Church Road the OPP requested MTO supply up to an additional 3.8km of TCB and install 2.3km TCB from another contractor.
- On February 13, 2022, the Ambassador bridge was re-opened to traffic.
- On February 12 and 13, 2022, MTO reached out to several service providers to support and expedite the installation of TCB in Windsor. [REDACTED] was the only one willing to install TCB in Windsor so the work was sole sourced to [REDACTED].
- On February 14, 2022, the Prime Minister of Canada invoked the Emergencies Act for the first time ever in response to protests and blockades.

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Details/Background:

- On February 12, 2022, OPP requested that MTO provide 6 pieces of equipment and <0.2km TCB to support the reopening of the Ambassador Bridge U.S. Border Crossing.
- MTO Maintenance Service Provider for Chatham [REDACTED] declined to provide any support in the City of Windsor citing that it was outside of their contract area and were concerned for the safety of their equipment and staff.
- MTO Maintenance Service Provider for the Rt Hon. Herb Gray Parkway [REDACTED] agreed to provide equipment support but was unable to supply TCB.
- On February 12 and 13 Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) – Operations Division was provided with an updates as the situation was evolving recognizing that the authority to sole-source this emergency work rests with the Deputy Minister.
- On February 12 and 13, 2022, MTO reached out to several service providers to support and expedite the installation of TCB in Windsor. [REDACTED] was the only one willing to install TCB in Windsor so the work was sole sourced to [REDACTED].
- On February 12, [REDACTED] agreed to supply, transport, and install 60m of TCB in Windsor and began their work on February 13.
- On February 13, OPP requested that MTO arrange to have up to 6.4km TCB installed on Huron Church Road to control access and allow uninterrupted traffic flow to Huron Church Road from the US border point of entry to E.C. Row Expressway.

Next Steps:

- Obtain Deputy Minister's approval to the sole-source the acquisition of temporary concrete barrier to [REDACTED]

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